



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 86

LCO No. 1063



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIRE SAFETY CODE AND ONE, TWO
AND THREE-FAMILY DWELLINGS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 29-292 of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

4 (a) (1) The State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards
5 Committee shall adopt and administer a Fire Safety Code and at any
6 time may amend the same. The code shall be based on a nationally
7 recognized model fire code and shall be revised not later than January
8 1, 2005, and thereafter as deemed necessary to incorporate advances in
9 technologies and improvements in construction materials and any
10 subsequent revisions to the code not later than eighteen months
11 following the date of first publication of such revisions to the code,
12 unless the State Fire Marshal and the committee certify that a revision
13 is not necessary for such purpose. The regulations in said code shall
14 provide for reasonable safety from fire, smoke and panic therefrom, in
15 all buildings and areas adjacent thereto except in private dwellings

16 occupied by one, [or] two or three families and upon all premises, and
17 shall include provision for (A) carbon monoxide detection and
18 warning equipment in (i) new residential buildings not exempt under
19 regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection and designed to be
20 occupied by one, [or] two or three families for which a building permit
21 for new occupancy is issued on or after October 1, 2005, and (ii) all
22 public or nonpublic school buildings, and (B) smoke detection and
23 warning equipment in (i) residential buildings designed to be occupied
24 by two or more families, (ii) new residential buildings designed to be
25 occupied by one family for which a building permit for new occupancy
26 is issued on or after October 1, 1978, requiring equipment complying
27 with the Fire Safety Code, and (iii) new residential buildings designed
28 to be occupied by one or more families for which a building permit for
29 new occupancy is issued on or after October 1, 1985, requiring
30 equipment capable of operation using alternating current and
31 batteries.

32 Sec. 2. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 29-292 of the
33 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
34 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

35 (2) No certificate of occupancy shall be issued for any (A) new
36 residential building not exempt under regulations adopted pursuant to
37 subsection (a) of this section and designed to be occupied by one, [or]
38 two or three families for which a building permit for new occupancy is
39 issued on or after October 1, 2005, or (B) public or nonpublic school
40 building for which a building permit for new occupancy is issued on
41 or after January 1, 2012, unless the local fire marshal or building
42 official has certified that such residential or school building is
43 equipped with carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment
44 complying with the Fire Safety Code.

45 Sec. 3. Section 29-296 of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

47 The State Fire Marshal may grant variations or exemptions from, or
 48 approve equivalent or alternate compliance with, particular provisions
 49 of any regulation issued under the provisions of section 29-292, as
 50 amended by this act, where strict compliance with such provisions
 51 would entail practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, or is
 52 otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided any such variation or
 53 exemption or approved equivalent or alternate compliance shall, in the
 54 opinion of the State Fire Marshal, secure the public safety. A variation
 55 or exemption may be granted where compliance with the code would
 56 cause impairment or destruction of the features of a historic structure
 57 or landmark, as defined in section 22a-19a, which is used as a private
 58 dwelling and occupied by one, two or three families. Any application
 59 for a variation or exemption or equivalent or alternate compliance
 60 received by a local fire marshal shall be forwarded to the State Fire
 61 Marshal by first class mail within fifteen business days of receipt by
 62 such local fire marshal and shall be accompanied by a letter from such
 63 local fire marshal that shall include comments on the merits of the
 64 application.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	29-292(a)(1)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2016	29-292(b)(2)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2016	29-296

Statement of Purpose:

To exempt three-family dwellings from Fire Safety Code regulations and provide for variation or exemption where impairment or destruction of a historic structure or landmark being used as a private dwelling and occupied by one, two or three families would result from compliance with said code.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]